

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGUI 00028 071652Z

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EMIN, CT

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT AND EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITY: MINERAL CONCESSIONS
IN THE CSNTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

1. AS A RESULT OF THE US GEOLOGICAL OBSERVATORY SATELLITE'S DISCOVERY OF THE "BANGUI MAGNETIC ANOMALY" AND SUBSEQUENT INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY GENERATED REGARDING POSSIBLE FERROUS ORE BODISS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PHENOMENON, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC IS WILLING TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR EXPLORATORY AND CONCESSIONAL RIGHTS IN THE AREA OF THE PHENOMENON. JEAN BEDEL BOKASSA, PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ESPECIALLY REQUESTED ON JANUARY 6 THAT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY INFORM AMERICAN COMPANIES OF CONCESSIONAL POSSIBILITIES. HE IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN GIVING AMERICAN FIRMS THE CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY EVENTUAL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION AS THE SCIENTIFIC PHENOMENON WAS DISCOVERED BY AN AMERICAN SATELLITE AND ALSO BECAUSE OF HIS RESPECT FOR AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY. ACCORDING TO THE PRESIDENT, SWISS, FRENCH AND JAPANESE COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CONCESSIONARY RIGHTS.

2. AMONG OTHERS, REPORTS ON THE BANGUI ANOMALY HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE WASHINGTON POST NOV 14, 1975 AND THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE NOV. 22, 1975. ALTHOUGH DEPOSITS OF IRON, URANIUM AND DIAMONDS WERE KNOWN TO EXIST IN THE C.A.R. PRIOR TO THE SATELLITE'S INDICATIONS, THE RECENT PUBLICITY HAS STIMULATED INTEREST IN THESE AND OTHER AS YET UNKNOWN RESOURCES.

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3. PRESIDENT BOKASSA HAS ASKED THAT COMPANIES INTERESTED IN

DISCUSSING EXPLORATORY AND CONCESSIONAL RIGHTS CONTACT HIM
DIRECTLY AT THE PALAIS DE LA RENAISSANCE, BANGUI OR THROUGH THE
EMBASSY OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, 1816 22 ST. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE IN FRENCH WITH
INFORMATION COPIES TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY BANGUI.SWING

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